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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

**INFORMATION REPORT**

CD NO.

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR. 13 March 1950

SUBJECT NVA Plans for Whitsuntide Rally

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SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

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1. The Whitsuntide rally of the FDJ will be attended by 10,000 of the personnel attached to the NVA. The majority of these will be housed in barracks belonging to the former poison-gas factory Niederlehms in the vicinity of Königs-wusterhausen. During the rally the NVA personnel will for the first time wear the new uniform announced by Wilhelm Zeisser at a meeting on 2 February 1950. This uniform will consist of shirt, blouse, and paratrooper-type tucked-in trousers, and will be of a yellow-brown color similar to Soviet Army uniforms. It is not expected that weapons will be issued to the NVA personnel for this occasion.
  2. The opinion prevails in well informed circles in the NVA that all conceivable means will be employed to obtain permission for the use of the Olympic Stadium by the FDJ, and for the proposed march through West Berlin. If, however, legal means are of no avail, these circles consider that the march should be attempted nevertheless, even though it is recognized that the flouting of the territorial jurisdiction of the western powers might have serious repercussions.
  3. Erwin Engelbrecht's appointment to the organization committee for the FDJ rally was scheduled to be effective as of 11 March.
  4. The scope of the rally has been determined exclusively by Soviet directives, without reference to protests by the western Allies, although decisions as to FDJ activities in the western sectors of Berlin may be influenced by Allied composition. As yet, however, there is no evidence that Allied pronouncements on the subject have had any effect.
  5. In compliance with orders received from Major General Petrakovsky of the Soviet Control Commission, all schools and Bereitschaften have been requested to submit a list of names of personnel who can be considered, on the basis of their performance hitherto, as of proper caliber for platoon and squad leaders.

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Comment: Considerable evidence indicates that the month of May 1950 is to be an important milestone in the time schedule of HVA affairs. Large-scale organizational moves and personnel re-shuffles can be anticipated, coinciding with the return of those police officials who are now in the Soviet Union for training. It is even thought possible that the proclamation of a "People's Army" may be a culminating event of the FDJ rally.

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